a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Narasimham to examine all aspects relating to the structure, organisation, functions and procedures of the financial system. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 20th November, 1991. The report of the Committee will be proposed on the basis of detailed examination of its recommendations in consultation with Reserve Bank of India and other concerned agencies.

[*Translation*]

Production and Export of Cotton

3737. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cotton in the country during the current year so far;

(b) the number of bales of cotton used for manufacturing cotton cloth this year;

(c) this likely effect on cotton growers of the reduction in Excise duty on man-made cloth and synthetic fire as proposed to new textile policy;

(d) whether the Government contemplate to have a buffer stock of cotton or to increase its export; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The Cotton Advisory Board at its meeting held on 29th August, 1991 had estimated the production cotton during 1991-92 season at 130 lakh bales. However, due to subsequent failure of rains in some parts of the country, the expected production is likely to be lower than the earlier estimate.

(b) During September - October, 1991 about 13 lakh bales of cotton is estimated to have been used by the Mill/Power/loom/ Handloom Sector for manufacture of cotton cloth. During the cotton season 1990-91, about 83 lakh bales of cotton was used by these sectors for manufacture of cotton cloth.

(c) Government has not taken any final decision in the matter of review of the Textile Policy of 1985.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Release of Smugglers

3738. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of smugglers released during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of smugglers released from house arrest by the Advisory Board during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The total number of smugglers released, including those released by the Advisor Boards, during each of the last three years under COFEPOSA Act indicated in the table below:

Year	*Released by Advisory Board*	*Total releases*
1989	227	731
1990	322	948
1991 (Provisional upto No., 1991)	146	613